



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

Office of Marine Safety

Ethan Allen

Lake George, NY

October 2, 2005

DCA06MM001

The Ethan Allen



NTSB Photo



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NTSB-Office of Marine Safety

- Morgan Turrell, IIC
- Bob Ford, IIC
- Rob Henry, Naval Architecture and Stability
- Brian Curtis, Engineering
- Mariette Burer, Survival Factors
- Liam LaRue, Vessel Factors
- Barry Strauch, Ph.D., Writer
- Pat Barnes, Editor

NTSB Staff

- Acting Chairman Rosenker & Tom Doyle
- Derek Nash, Materials Science
- Mitch Garber, M.D., Medical Officer
- Joe Gregor, Ph.D., Vehicle Performance
- Don Eick, Weather
- Keith O'Neill and Brian Moy, Contracting
- Terry Williams, Public Affairs
- Brian Fiffick & Ken Suydam,
Transportation Disaster Assistance
- Chris Julius, Office of General Counsel

Parties

- New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
- Warren County Sheriff's Office
- Shoreline Cruises, Inc., owner
- Scarano Boatbuilding, Inc.
- Cummins MerCruiser Diesel
- Hypro Pumps

Safety issues

- Stability standards and procedures for passenger vessels
- New York State's use of capacity plates to determine public vessel passenger loading
- Regulation of New York State's public vessels

Presenters

- Overview, M.Turrell
- Stability, R. Henry
- New York State Regulations, M. Turrell
- New York State's use of manufacturer capacity plates, R. Henry

Ethan Allen

- Built in 1964
- 40 feet long
- Fiberglass
- Ex *Double Dolphin*
- USCG certificate



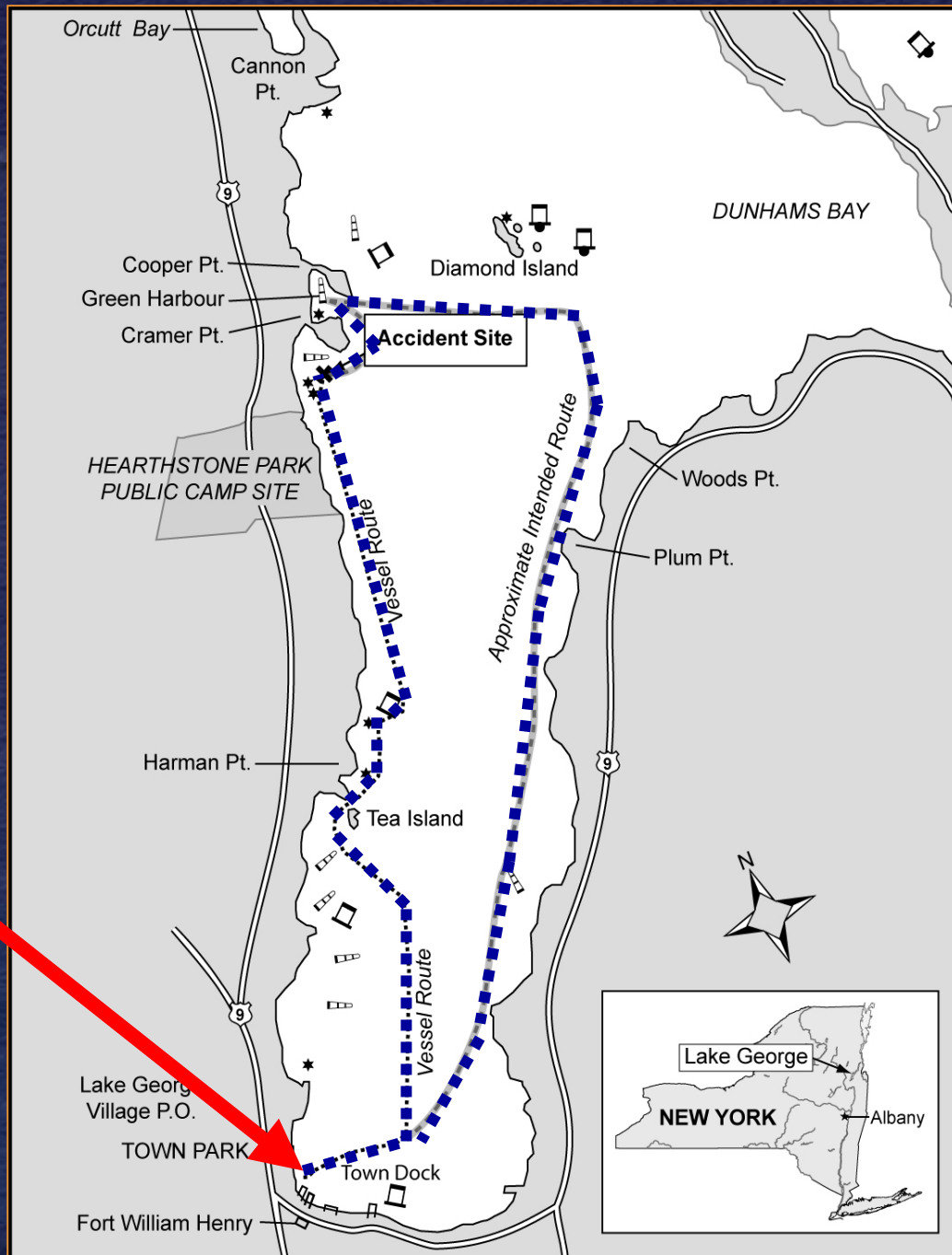
Courtesy of New York State

Ethan Allen

- Sold to Shoreline Cruises, Inc.
- Moved to Lake George, New York
- New York State jurisdiction
- Public vessel



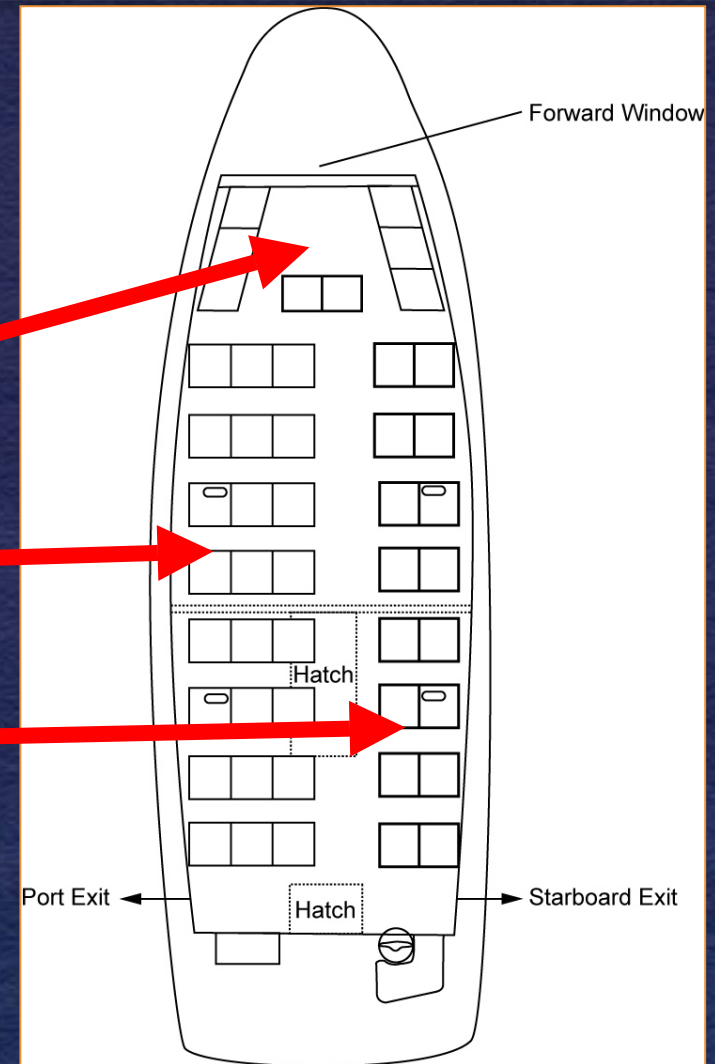
Courtesy of New York State



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Ethan Allen arrangement



De Champlain



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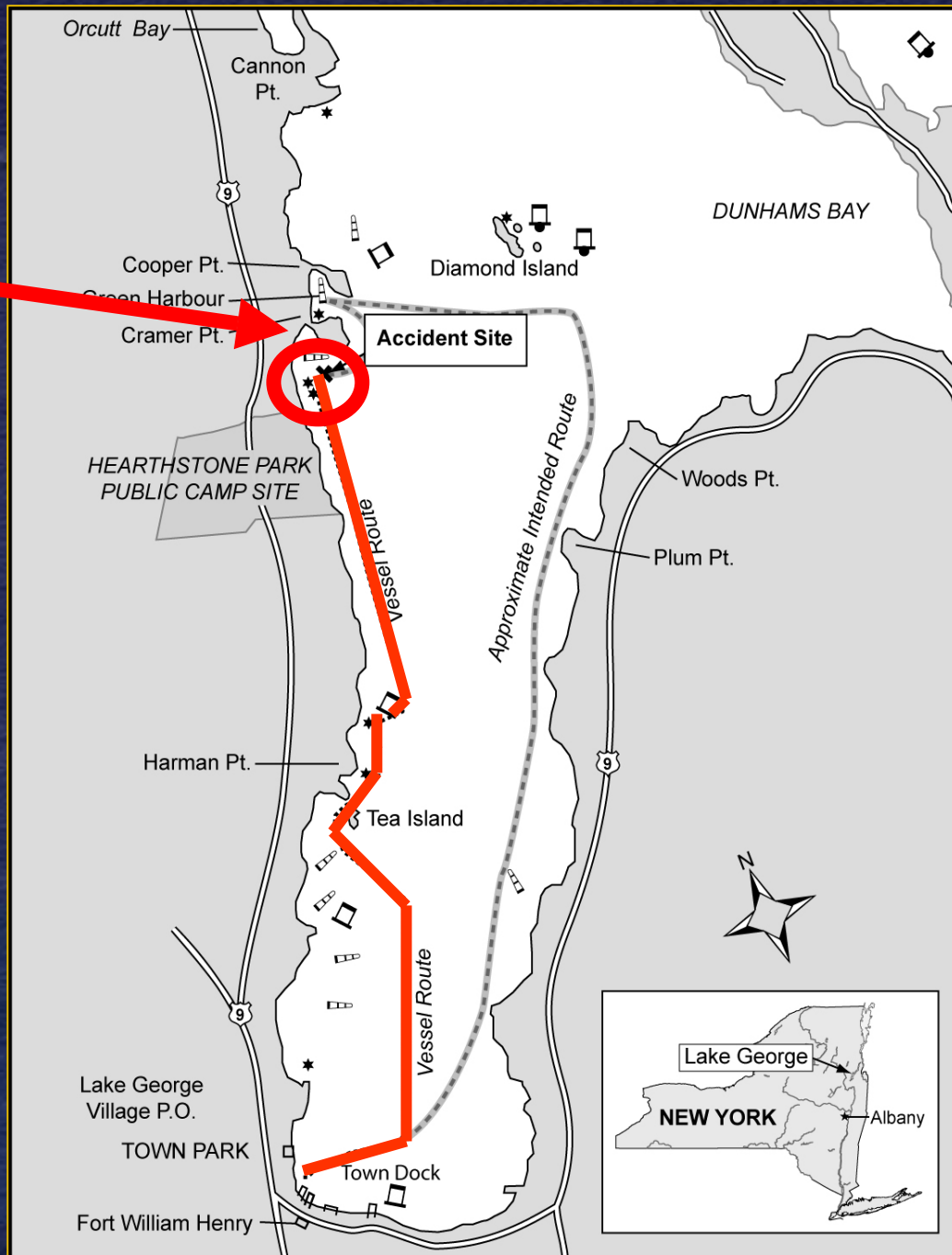
Hull condition

- Operators checked the bilge
- Investigators surveyed the hull
- The coolant pump was examined

Departure

- No safety briefing conducted
- Departed at 1430
- 47 passengers and 1 operator
- Other vessels on the lake

Cramer
Point



NTSB



The capsizes

- Vessel turned to starboard
- Wave impacts Ethan Allen
- Passengers shifted to port side
- Passengers swept out of windows
- Ethan Allen capsized in seconds

Emergency response

- Nearby recreational boats
- Vessel sank in minutes
- Emergency personnel on scene in minutes
- No drug or alcohol test administered

Injuries

Type of Injury	Crew	Passengers	Total
Fatal	0	20	20
Serious	0	3	3
Minor	0	6	6
None	1	18	19
Total	0	47	48

Exclusions

- Weather
- Operator fatigue
- Ethan Allen's hull structure
- Steering and propulsion



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New York State regulations

New York State regulations for public vessels

- Deficiencies found during investigation
- Action by New York State

Issues not adequately addressed in New York regulations

- Vessel modifications
- Stability assessments and criteria
- Safe load condition
- Safety briefings
- Manning
- Post accident testing

Actions by New York State

- Reduced number of passengers on public vessels
- Revised technical guidance on stability and operations
- Regulations under review
- Proposed legislation is pending

Other safety issues

- Criteria for stability assessments
- Determining maximum safe load condition
- Recommendation to USCG M-06-6



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